

Message Text

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ACTION ITFE-05

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 SR-02 ORM-01 AID-05 VO-03 SCA-01

INSE-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

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FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9986

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRASILIA 5142

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SREF, BR

SUBJECT: RESETTLEMENT OF VIETNAMESE REFUGEES

REF: STATE 128555

1. DCM CALLED ON MINISTER ITALO ZAPPA, CHIEF OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY'S DEPARTMENT OF AFRICAN AND ASIAN AFFAIRS ON JUNE 9, TO REITERATE US INTEREST IN RESETTLEMENT OF VIETNAMESE REFUGEES. HE MENTIONED TO ZAPPA THE SETTING UP BY ICEM OF A SELECTION MIGRATION PROGRAM WHICH MIGHT BE OF INTEREST TO BRAZIL. ZAPPA WAS CORDIAL AND RECEPTIVE, BUT NONCOMMITTAL, SAYING ONLY THAT HE WOULD DISCUSS THE MATTER WITH BRAZILIAN IMMIGRATION AUTHORITIES. USAID MISSION DEPUTY DIRECTOR LEARNED THAT ICEM BRAZIL REP., ERNEST RAHARDT, PLANNED TO RAISE THE REFUGEE MATTER WITH BRAZILIAN OFFICIALS JUNE 10-12, AND URGED RAHARDT TO PRESENT A LIST OF SKILLED PROSPECTIVE REFUGEES FOR BRAZILIAN CONSIDERATION. IN CONVERSATION WITH CPAO JUNE 12, RAHARDT SAID THAT FOREIGN MINISTRY HAD AGREED TO ADMIT VIA ICEM A LIMITED NUMBER OF VIETNAMESE REFUGEES ON THE SAME BASIS AS EUROPEAN IMMIGRANTS ARE ADMITTED.

2. USAID MISSION DIRECTOR ALSO RAISED REFUGEE MATTER AGAIN ON JUNE 16 WITH ADERBAL COSTA, DIRECTOR OF THE SUB-SECRETARIAT
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FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION (SSBIN) OF THE SECRETARIAT FOR

PLANNING. USAID DIRECTOR EMPHASIZED THE ATTRACTION OF SKILLED REFUGEES TO FILL EXISTING VOIDS IN AREAS OF BRAZILIAN DEVELOPMENT, AND COSTA ASKED TO BE INFORMED OF THE AVILABILITY OF SKILLED REFUGEES, ESPECIALLY IN THE AGRICULTURAL FIELD, SO THAT HE MIGHT CALL THIS TO THE ATTENTION OF BRAZILIAN DEVELOPMENT AGENCIES. USAID DEPUTY DIRECTOR BROUGHT THIS CONVERSATION TO THE ATTENTION OF RAHARDT ON JUNE 20. RAHARDT SAID HE HAD REQUESTED BIO DATA ON PROSPECTIVE REFUGEES FROM ICEM HEAD-QUARTERS FOR DISTRIBUTION TO THE BRAZILIAN AUTHORITIES AND PROMISED TO ADD SUBIN TO THE RECIPIENTS OF THE BIO DATA. RAHARDT CONFIRMED THAT THE BRAZILIAN AUTHORITIES WILL CONSIDER THE VIETNAMESE REFUGEES ON THE SAME BASIS AS OTHER ICEM CANDIDATES, I.E., THEY WILL CONSIDER INDIVIDUAL APPLICANTS IF THEY HAVE THE QUALIFICATIONS AND POTENTIAL TO MEET A BRAZILIAN REQUIREMENT.
CRIMMINS

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